

Message Text

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR, IT, PINT
SUBJECT: ANDREOTTI'S PLANS FOR RESOLVING THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS

1. A SOURCE IN ANDREOTTI'S OFFICE, WELL-KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, TOLD THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR IN CONFIDENCE THAT ANDREOTTI IS WORKING ON THE FOLLOWING PACKAGE WHICH HE WOULD USE IN HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OTHER PARTIES IN AN ATTEMPT TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT. WHILE THIS PROPOSED PLAN IS CERTAINLY NOT IN FINAL FORM IN ANY OF ITS ASPECTS, IT IS REPORTED AS AN INDICATION OF THE KINDS OF THINGS THAT ANDREOTTI AND HIS STAFF ARE THINKING ABOUT AS POSSIBILITIES FOR WORKING OUT A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE PRESENT CRISIS.

2. THE PROPOSED PLAN WOULD INCLUDE A RESTRUCTURING OF THE GOVERNMENT, REDUCING THE NUMBER OF MINISTRIES TO FIFTEEN. BUDGET, CIPE (THE INTER-MINISTERIAL ECONOMIC PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE) AND REFORM OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WOULD BE PLACED IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. THIS WOULD GIVE THE PRIME MINISTER DIRECT CONTROL OVER THE BUDGET AND ECONOMIC POLICY. THESE THREE RESPONSIBILITIES WOULD BE RUN BY THREE UNDER SECRETARIES. THE NAMES BEING CONSIDERED ARE
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SCOTTI, BRESSANI, AND POSTAL. USING THE YOUNGER UNDER SECRETARIES WOULD BE A USEFUL GESTURE TOWARD YOUNGER REFORM ELEMENTS IN THE DC. AT THE SAME TIME, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, ANDREOTTI WOULD PLAN TO COMBINE FINANCE AND TREASURY, THEREBY DROPPING STAMMATI WHO IS REGARDED AS NOT HAVING BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. MENTION WAS MADE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF

PUTTING MILAZZO, ANDREOTTI'S PRESENT CHEF DE CABINET, IN CHARGE OF THE COMBINED FINANCE/TREASURY MINISTRY. MILAZZO HAS A GOOD REPUTATION AND IS CERTAINLY LOYAL TO ANDREOTTI. SUCH AN APPOINTMENT WOULD HOWEVER RAISE A QUESTION ABOUT PANDOLFI'S FUTURE, SINCE HE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MINISTERS IN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT. THE FOREGOING ACTIONS COULD STREAMLINE AND MAKE THE GOVERNMENT MUCH MORE EFFICIENT ON THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SIDE. IT WOULD HOPEFULLY AVOID THE PUBLIC SQUABBLING AND DISAGREEMENTS THAT HAVE GONE ON AMONG THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCE MINISTRIES IN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS NOT ONLY EMBARRASSING BUT WORKS TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN DEALING WITH THE OTHER PARTIES, AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE PCI.

3. ON THE PROGRAMMING SIDE, ANDREOTTI WOULD ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT AS DETAILED AN AGREEMENT ON CURRENT CRISIS PROBLEMS AS POSSIBLE. THE PROBLEMS INCLUDED WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS THOSE COVERED BY THE SIX PARTY ACCORD OF LAST JULY BUT WOULD, HOPEFULLY, BE MORE SPECIFIC AND DETAILED. AS A GESTURE TO THE PCI, ANDREOTTI WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE THEM VOTE AFFIRMATIVELY ON THE ELEMENTS COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT ON THE PROGRAM AND WOULD, IN ADDITION, PUT FORWARD AS HIS OWN A PROPOSAL MADE BY THE PCI LAST
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YEAR FOR AN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONTROL COMMITTEE TO SUPERVISE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED PROGRAM.

4. OTHER DETAILS OF THE AS YET UNFINISHED NEGOTIATING PLAN WOULD PROBABLY INCLUDE REMOVAL OF DONAT CATTIN AND TINA ANSELMIS AS MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY AND LABOR, RESPECTIVELY, BECAUSE BOTH OF THEM ARE DISLIKED BY THE PCI AND THE CGIL. IN ADDITION, PICCOLI WOULD PROBABLY BE GIVEN A MINOR MINISTRY IN ORDER TO REMOVE HIM AS DC LEADER IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES. PICCOLI IS REGARDED AS NOT BEING VERY EFFECTIVE IN THAT POSITION AND, INDEED, A MAJORITY OF THE DEPUTIES APPEAR TO BE OUT OF SYMPATHY WITH HIM. REPORTEDLY, FORLANI WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PICCOLI'S JOB AS A MORE EFFECTIVE STEPPING STONE FOR HIS FUTURE POLITICAL CAREER THAN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY PROVIDES. GARDNER

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